

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1457

AMEMBASSY MADRID

INFO AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

DIA WASHDC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PFOR GR SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH OPPOSITION LEADERS IN ATHENS

REF: ATHENS 9124(NOTAL)

1. THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY, SANTIAGO CARRILLO, AND HIS TRAVELING COMPANIONS TO GREECE, JOSE VIDAL BENITO OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY AND RAFAEL CALVO SERER OF THE ANTI-FRANCO ROYALISTS (REFTEL), ALL CHARACTERIZED AS UNACCEPTABLE THE MESSAGE READ BY JUAN CARLOS FOLLOWING HIS SWEARING-IN AS KING ON NOVEMBER 22. IN CARRILLO'S WORDS: "THE MESSAGE OF JUAN CARLOS IS COMPLETELY UNACCEPTABLE TO THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES OF SPAIN. IT PROVES THAT ABSOLUTELY NOTHING HAS CHANGED IN SPAIN. OUR STRUGGLE WILL CONTINUE UNDIMINISHED UNTIL FINAL VICTORY."

2. AT A PRESS CONFERENCE THE PREVIOUS DAY (NOVEMBER 22), THE VISITING SPANIARDS MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A. THE PEOPLE OF SPAIN SHOULD DECIDE ON THEIR FUTURE REGIME AND GOVERNMENT BY A REFERENDUM AND FREE  
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ELECTIONS:

B. JUAN CARLOS DOES NOT ENJOY THE CONFIDENCE OF THE PEOPLE. "WE WILL NOT GIVE UP THE STRUGGLE NOW THAT FRANCO HAS DIED. THIS STRUGGLE WILL BE PEACEFUL. WE SHALL NOT RESORT TO THE USE OF ARMS, BECAUSE THIS WOULD BE CONTRARY TO SPANISH INTERESTS. JUAN CARLOS, FOR HIS PART SHOULD DEMONSTRATE HIS GOOD WILL BY AIDING THE STRUGGLE OF THE DEMOCRATIC FORCES, SO AS TO COUNTERBALANCE THE PRESSURE FROM THE EXTREME RIGHT;"

C. IN A FREE AND DEMOCRATIC SPAIN, ALL PARTIES SHOULD HAVE THEIR RIGHTFUL PLACE AND THE SPANISH COMMUNIST PARTY SHOULD BE OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED. AN AMNESTY SHOULD BE GRANTED TO ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS AND REFUGEES;

D. HIGH RANKING OFFICERS OF THE SPANISH ARMY MUST UNDERSTAND THE DEMOCRATIC IDEALS WITH WHICH THE MAJORITY OF THE SPANISH MILITARY ARE IMBUED. THE ARMED FORCES SHOULD CONFINE THEMSELVES TO THEIR MILITARY DUTIES AND LEAVE POLITICAL PROBLEMS TO THE POLITICAL PARTIES;

E. THE MIRACULOUS RESTORATION OF DEMOCRACY IN GREECE HAS REFUTED THE ARGUMENTS OF FRANCO-SUPPORTERS THAT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN PORTUGAL CONSTITUTED A SERIOUS WARNING TO SPAIN.

3. DURING THEIR STAY HERE IN ADDITION TO THE PRESS CONFERENCE, THE VISITING SPANISH OPPOSITION FIGURES MET WITH A NUMBER OF GREEK POLITICAL LEADERS INCLUDING FORMER PRIME MINISTER KANELLOPOULOS, CENTER UNION/NEW FORCES PRESIDENT MAVROS, PANHELLENIC SOCIALIST MOVEMENT LEADER PAPANDREOU, UNITED DEMOCRATIC LEFT CHIEFTAIN ILIOU AS WELL AS OFFICIALS OF GREECE'S TWO COMMUNIST PARTIES. THEY ALSO HAD CONTACT WITH LABOR AND YOUTH GROUPS. THE SPANISH VISITORS ATTENDED A RALLY ORGANIZED TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH THE SPANISH PEOPLE, WHICH, HOWEVER, IN PART AT LEAST BECAUSE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER, DREW ONLY A SMALL CROWD.  
KUBISCH

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